

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.



RULES TO BE OBSERVED IN THE CARE
AND MANAGEMENT OF CASES OF

WHOOPING COUGH.

Whooping-Cough with its associated complications, is a very fatal disease, especially in infants and young children; therefore it is always advisable to summon a physician and to make every possible effort to prevent the spread of the disease.

The patient should be kept entirely away from other children or adults who have not had the disease, and it is sometimes advisable to confine the patient to a well lighted, well ventilated room, with windows screened, and, if possible, with southerly exposure and remote from other occupied rooms in the house.

This room should be stripped of fancy curtains, carpets and upholstery and all other furniture not necessary for the comfort of the occupants.

Soiled bed and body clothing, including handkerchiefs and cloths used for collection of discharges from the nose and mouth, or soiled by vomited matter, should be thoroughly disinfected. This may be done by placing them in cold water and boiling for thirty minutes, or by use of some of the following disinfectants.

Make up disinfecting solutions by adding one-half ounce of Chlorinated Lime (Chloride of Lime or Bleaching Powder) to one gallon of water, or three teaspoonfuls of Liquor Cresolis Compositus or three teaspoonfuls of Creolin or eight teaspoonfuls of a solution of Formaldehyde (at least $37\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.), to a pint of water. The solution of Formaldehyde is preferred.

A tub or other vessel containing a sufficient quantity of one of the disinfecting solutions should be kept in a convenient place for soaking bed and body linen.

Place all such clothing in this vessel immediately upon removal from the bed or from the body of the patient, and allow it to soak for at least three hours after which it should be boiled for at least one-half hour.

Do not carry such infected clothing through the house or store it with other soiled material.

Cloths used for the collection of the discharges from the nose and throat if of little value should be burned.

Receptacles containing the Liquor Cresolis Compositus or the Formaldehyde Solution should be kept outside the sick room door for the reception of plates and eating utensils of all kinds.

Remnants of food left by the patient should be burned.

The nurse or attendant should not use eating utensils or drinking vessels from the sick room nor should she permit others to do it until they have been boiled for at least one-half hour.

A basin or other vessel containing Bichloride of Mercury Solution, (one tablet to one quart of water), or other good antiseptic solution should be kept constantly made up so that the hands may be immediately washed after handling any secretions or clothing from the patient.

The air of the sick room cannot be disinfected during its occupancy by the patient.

The practice of hanging up cloths saturated with carbolic acid or of placing saucers of Chlorinated Lime or proprietary disinfectants in the sick room is not only annoying to the patient, but utterly useless and often injurious.

An abundance of fresh air should be admitted to the room, but the patient should be protected from direct draughts.

Exclude domestic animals and destroy all insects in the room, especially flies.

Individual milk bottles should not be taken into or removed from the premises during the existence of the disease.

When premises from which milk is sold are quarantined for Whooping-cough, the sale of milk from such premises should be continued only when the patient is carefully isolated.

Those engaged in the production of milk or milk products, or in the cleansing or care of utensils used for this purpose, should be required to keep out of the sick room and entirely away from the infected individual until a certificate of recovery has been issued by the physician in charge, and a certificate of disinfection has been granted by the Health Officer.

The householder should set a vessel out to receive the milk, and the person delivering the milk should pour it into such vessel without touching it with his hand or with the vessel from which it is poured.

On receiving notice Form 34, of the existence of a case of whooping-cough, the Health Officer shall place one or more placards bearing the name of the disease in a conspicuous place or places upon the premises within which the disease has appeared.

Modified quarantine is enforced over the premises where whooping-cough exists for the purpose of controlling the movement of the individual suffering from the disease. Wage earners and adult members of the household may be given quarantine permits with the usual restrictions. Children of the household not having whooping-cough may continue school attendance during the quarantine period if the child suffering with whooping-cough is isolated and at no time comes in contact with the children attending school. No child suffering from whooping-cough shall be permitted to attend public, private, parochial or Sunday School until thirty days after the physician has reported recovery and the Health Officer has disinfected the premises wherein such disease existed.

Following the recovery, death or removal of the patient, the sick room and its contents **MUST BE DISINFECTED WITH FORMAL-DEHYDE GAS.** (This disinfection must be done by the Department's Health Officer). His certificate is required for return to school.

As disinfecting agents are poisonous when taken internally, such drugs and solutions should always be plainly labeled and kept out of the reach of children.

The Act of May 14, 1909, requires health authorities to place a warning placard, in a conspicuous place, on all premises where Whooping-Cough exists.

SAMUEL G. DIXON,
Commissioner of Health.

Revised September 2, 1912.

ACT OF MAY 14, 1909.

Section 7. No child or other person suffering from Whooping-Cough shall be permitted to attend any public, private, parochial, Sunday or other school, and the teachers of public schools and the principals, superintendents and teachers or other persons in charge of private, parochial, Sunday or other schools are hereby required to exclude any and all such children and persons from said school for a period of thirty days following the removal of the quarantine on the premises wherein such children or persons reside respectively, and the disinfection of the premises and of the person or persons suffering from said disease.

Section 24. Any person who shall remove, deface, cover up, or destroy, or cause to be removed, defaced, covered up or destroyed, any placard relating to any of the diseases mentioned in section two of this Act, shall, for any such offense, upon conviction thereof in a summary proceeding before any magistrate or justice of the peace of the county wherein such offense was committed, be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than ten (\$10) dollars, or more than one hundred (\$100) dollars, to be paid to the use of said county, or to be imprisoned in the county jail for a period of not less than ten days or more than thirty days, or both, at the discretion of the court; and any person who shall violate any of the quarantine restrictions imposed by this Act, the rules and regulations of the health authorities of any city, borough or township of the first class, or of the State Department of Health, or who shall interfere with the said health authorities or agents thereof in the discharge of his or their duties, as provided for in this Act, shall, for every such offense, upon conviction thereof in a summary proceeding before any magistrate or justice of the peace of the county wherein such offense was committed, be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than fifty (\$50) dollars, or more than one hundred (\$100) dollars, to be paid to the use of the said county, or to be imprisoned in the county jail for a period of not less than ten or more than thirty days, or both, at the discretion of the court.